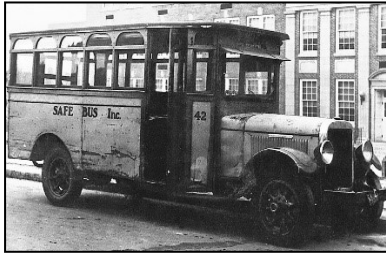


BLACK HISTORY

Salute to Black History from STCREC States

Contributions of African Americans to the Transportation Industry:

The Safe Bus Company operated in the city of Winston-Salem, North Carolina from 1926 to 1972. The company was originally formed to provide transportation to the city's underserved black neighborhoods. The company was created by 21 jitney operators. These operators transported black workers to their employment in the city's tobacco factories. These jitney operators came together and formed their own transportation company for the city's black residents. The company was sold in 1972, to the Winston-Salem Transit Authority.



Elbert R. Robinson

Elbert refined the electric railway trolley. In 1839, he received a patent for his invention. Robinson's invention focused on the trolley's wheels and it improved the way trolleys took turns.

Granville T. Woods

Invented the Induction Telegraph System. This allowed trains to communicate with one another and prevented them from colliding into each other.

Global Black History Facts

- Europe, Canada, Japan & The Netherlands also celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr Day during different months each year
- Black History month is celebrated in United Kingdom (1987), Canada (1995) and the Republic of Ireland (2010)
- W.E.B Dubois was the first African American to receive a Ph. D. from Harvard
- Black History Month first began as 'Negro History Week' in 1926 and was started by Carter G. Woodson, a notable Historian
- Phillis Wheatley was the first published African American female author. She was a servant who published her first poem at the young age of 12 in the mid-1700s
- Madam C.J. Walker was the first self-made African American female millionaire
- Hattie McDaniel was not allowed to attend the national premiere of *Gone with the Wind*, because of the color of her skin

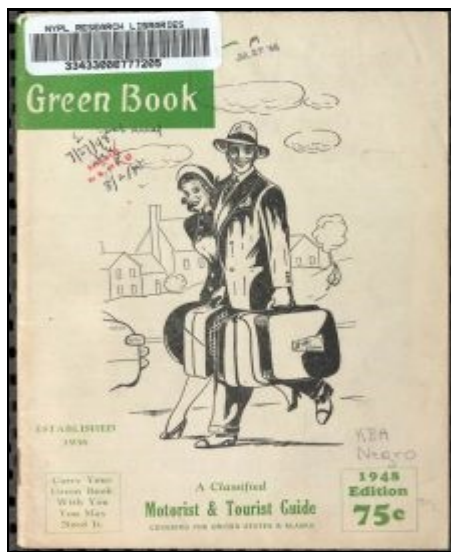
TN Transportation Black History:



Recognizing ***Geraldetta Dozier*** as the first Black woman to operate a bus in Knoxville in 1976. This venture started as way to help a single mother support her family but led to breaking down barriers and helping more Black women enter the workforce in America. Her career would span 26 years driving the Knoxville Area Transit bus logging more than 2 million miles and winning several safe driving awards.



The Green Book in Tennessee



“The Negro Motorist Green Book,” an exhibition developed by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES) in collaboration with award-winning author, photographer and cultural documentarian, Candacy Taylor, began its three-year national tour June 13, 2020, at the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, Tennessee. It was on view at the Smithsonian Affiliate through Sept. 13, 2020.

The exhibition highlighted the history of “The Green Book,” an annual guide created in 1936 by Harlem postman Victor Green that helped African Americans travel the country with dignity by listing facilities that accepted blacks during the era of Jim Crow laws and segregation. “The Negro Motorist Green Book” is made possible through the generous support of Exxon Mobil Corporation.

“Bringing ‘The Negro Motorist Green Book’ to the National Civil Rights Museum at the Lorraine Motel was a natural fit as the

historic motel is not only a business listed in ‘The Green Book,’ but also a memorial location that honors the legacy of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.,” said Myriam Springuel, director of SITES and Smithsonian Affiliations. “The exhibition celebrated Victor Green and his publication and highlighted the success of many African American-owned businesses, like the Lorraine Motel, that made these journeys possible.”

“The Negro Motorist Green Book” offered an immersive look at the reality of travel for African Americans in mid-century America and how the annual guide served as an indispensable resource for the nation’s rising African American middle class. The exhibition included artifacts from business signs and match books to historic footage and images, artwork and firsthand accounts to convey not only the apprehension felt by African American travelers, but also the resilience, innovation and elegance of people choosing to live a full American existence. It brought focus to a vibrant parallel world of African American businesses, the rise of the black leisure class in the United States and the important role “The Green Book” played in facilitating the second wave of the Great Migration.

MEMPHIS**HOTELS**

Clarke—144 Beale Ave.
Travelers—347 Vance
Mitchells—160 Hernando St.
Marquette—406 Mulberry St.

RESTAURANTS

The Parkview—516 N. 3rd St.
Scott's—368 Vance Ave.
Davidson's—345 S. 4th St.
Bessie's—338 Vance Ave.
Moonlight—900 S. Landerdale

BEAUTY PARLORS

Chiles—341 Beale Ave.

BEAUTY SCHOOLS

Burchitts—201 Hernando St.
Superior—1550 Florida Ave.
Johnson—316 S. 4th St.

TAILORS

Parks—697 Landerdale

DRUG STORES

So. Memphis—907 Florida Ave.
Pantaze—Main & Beale

MURFREESBORO**TOURIST HOMES**

Mrs. M. E. Howland—439 E. State
R. Moore—University & State St.

NASHVILLE**HOTELS**

Carver—1122 Charlotte Ave.
Y. M. C. A.—4th & Charlotte Aves.
Carver Courts—White's Creek Pike
Y. W. C. A.—436 5th Ave. N.
Bryant—500 8th Ave. S.
Y. M. C. A.—436-5th Ave., N.
Fred Douglas—501 4th Ave. N.
Brown's—1610 Jefferson St., North

TOURIST HOMES

Mrs. C. James—1902 18th St. N.
Mrs. Moore—1702 Jefferson St., North

BEAUTY PARLORS

Queen of Sheba—1503 14th Ave. N.
Estelle's—1311 3rd Ave., S.
Myrtles—2423 Eden St.

BEAUTY SCHOOLS

Bowman's—409 4th Ave., N.

RESTAURANTS

Dew Drop Inn—2514 Booker St.
Black Hawk—1124 Cedar St.
Martha's—303 Cedar St.
Peacock Inn—Jefferson and 18th Ave.
Ann's Tea Room—Jefferson and 18th Ave.

TAILORS

Comet—1103 Charlotte Ave.

BARBER SHOPS

'Y'—34 4th Ave. N.

TEXAS**ABILENE****TAVERNS**

Hammond Cafe—620 Plum St.

AMARILLO**HOTELS**

Mayfair—119 Van Buren St.
Watley—112 Van Buren St.
Tennessee—206 Van Buren St.
Watley House—1205 N. Hughes St.

RESTAURANTS

Tom's Place—322 W. Third St.
New Harlem—114 Harrison St.
Blue Bonnet—400 W. Third St.

BARBER SHOPS

Foster's—204 Harrison St.

BEAUTY PARLORS

Helen's—105 N. Hughes St.
Mal-Ber—1006 N. Hughes St.
Unique—312 W. Third St.

ROAD HOUSES

Working Man's Club—202 Harrison

TAVERNS

Williams—113 Van Buren St.
Green Parrot—510 W. Third St.
Carter Bros.—323 W. Third St.

NIGHT CLUBS

Grand Terrace—N. Hughes & 3rd St.

SERVICE STATIONS

Carter Bros.—W. Third St.

GARAGES

M. & M.—7th & Van Buren St.

TAILORS

Spot Cash—512 W. Third St.
Mitchell's—314 W. Second St.

RECREATION CLUBS

Blue Moon—107 Harrison St.
Watley—202 Harrison St.

DRUG STORES

G. & M.—204A Harrison St.
Knighton—422 W. Third St.
Corner—118 Harrison St.

ATLANTA**TOURIST HOMES**

Mrs. Lizzie Simon—308 N. Howe St.

AUSTIN**TOURIST HOMES**

Mrs. J. W. Frazier—810 E. 13th St.
Mrs. J. W. Duncan—1214 E. 7th St.
Mrs. W. M. Tears—1203 E. 12th St.
Porter's—1315 E. 12th St.

BEAUMONT**TOURIST HOMES**

Mrs. B. Rivers—730 Forsythe St.

RESTAURANTS

Long Bar-B-Q—539 Forsythe St.

"The Green Book" was published in 1936 and distributed nationwide until 1967, providing African American travelers with information on restaurants, gas stations, department stores and other businesses that welcomed black travelers. In an era of Jim Crow laws and "sundown towns"—communities that explicitly prohibited African Americans from staying overnight; The Green Book" offered critical, life-saving information and sanctuary.

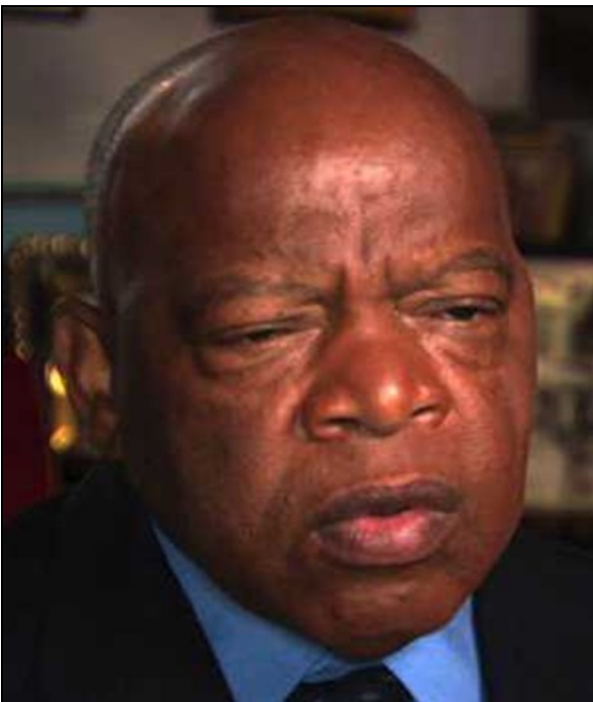
The National Civil Rights Museum, a Smithsonian Affiliate, located at the historic Lorraine Motel where civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated, gives a comprehensive overview of the American Civil Rights Movement from slavery to the present. For more information, visit www.civilrights museum.org.

Freedom Riders of the Civil Rights Movement



Part of the May 28 wave of Freedom Riders from the Nashville Student Movement, Pauline Knight-Ofusu escaped the violence of the earlier rides. Pauline Knight was a 20-year-old Tennessee State student when she was arrested in Jackson, MS. After being transferred to Hinds County Jail, she led a brief hunger strike among the female Riders.

"I got up one morning in May and I said to my folks at home, 'I won't be back today because I am a Freedom Rider,'" said Knight-Ofusu in her interview for *Freedom Riders*. "It was like a wave or a wind, and you didn't know where it was coming from but you knew you were supposed to be there. Nobody asked me, nobody told me."



By the time 19-year-old John Lewis joined the 1961 CORE Freedom ride, he already had five arrests under his belt as a veteran of the Nashville Student Movement. The son of hardscrabble tenant farmers from Pike County, AL, he attended American Baptist Theological Seminary in Nashville, TN where he was deeply influenced by Rev. Kelly Miller Smith and Rev. James Lawson.

On May 10, several days before the Riders crossed into Alabama, Lewis had left the CORE Ride to interview for a fellowship. By chance, he was in Nashville on May 14 when the news broke of the violent bus burning in Anniston, AL and the riot at the Birmingham Trailways Bus Station. Lewis helped to convince his friends and mentors from the Nashville Student Movement to get involved. He rode to Birmingham with the Nashville cohort, endured the angry mob in Montgomery, and was arrested in Jackson and served jail time at Mississippi's Parchman State Prison Farm.

Lewis would become the best-known among the youthful Freedom Riders, serving as chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), speaking at the 1963 March on Washington, and playing a pivotal role in the 1965 Selma — Montgomery March. In 1986, John Lewis was elected to represent Georgia in the U.S. House of Representatives where he served at least 12 terms.



By 1961, Diane Nash had emerged as one of the most respected student leaders of the sit-in movement in Nashville, TN. Raised in middle-class Catholic family in Chicago, Nash attended Howard University before transferring to Nashville's Fisk University in the fall of 1959. Shocked by the extent of segregation she encountered in Tennessee, she was a founding member of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) in April 1960. In February 1961 she served jail time in solidarity with the "Rock Hill Nine" — nine students imprisoned after a lunch counter sit-in. When the students learned of the bus burning in Anniston, AL and the riot in Birmingham, AL, Nash argued that it was their duty to continue.

"It was clear to me that if we allowed the Freedom Ride to stop at that point, just after so much violence had been inflicted, the message would have been sent that all you have to do to stop a nonviolent campaign is inflict massive violence," says Nash in *Freedom Riders*.

Elected coordinator of the Nashville Student Movement Ride, Nash monitored the progress of the Ride from Nashville, Tennessee, recruiting new Riders, speaking to the press, and working to gain the support of national Movement leaders and the federal government.

Assistant to Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy John Seigenthaler recalls a phone conversation with Nash where he tried to dissuade the Nashville Freedom Riders from going to Alabama, warning of the violence ahead. Nash replied that the Riders had signed their last wills and testaments prior to departure. In his interview for *Freedom Riders*, Seigenthaler recalls, "She in a very quiet but strong way gave me a lecture."

Nash played a key role in bringing Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. to Montgomery, AL on May 21 in support of the Riders. She herself was present for the violent siege of First Baptist Church.

National Museum of African American Music



The National Museum of African American Music is open to the general public in Nashville, Tennessee, opening Labor Day weekend in 2020. During the month of February, Wednesdays are free to the public sponsored in part by Nissan North America. Plan your visit and learn about the many great musicians that have helped to shape not only the music in Tennessee but the world.

Please visit their website to plan your next visit:

www.nmaam.org

The Southern Transportation Civil Rights Executive Council (STCREC) Celebrating Black History Month

From ensuring equity in transportation decades ago in the state of Florida

It all began on May 27, 1956 when two Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University boarded a local city bus. When Wilhelmina Jakes and Carrie Patterson boarded the bus, they sat in the only two seats available that happened to be in the whites-only section. They were asked to stand or leave the bus without a refund. When they refused, they were jailed for inciting a riot and released on bond later that same day. These events led to a boycott of the buses in the Tallahassee community. Gradually, the Tallahassee Bus Boycott and its organizers began to see some of their demands met with African Americans being hired as bus drivers. The boycott ended on December 22, 1956 and the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that segregation on city buses was unconstitutional.

Chicago Manual of Style

Florida Memory. "The Tallahassee Bus Boycott." *Floridiana*, 2022. <https://www.floridamemory.com/items/show/259734>.
MLA

Florida Memory. "The Tallahassee Bus Boycott." *Floridiana*, 2022, <https://www.floridamemory.com/items/show/259734>. Accessed January 31, 2022.
APA

Florida Memory. (2022). The Tallahassee Bus Boycott. *Floridiana*. Retrieved from <https://www.floridamemory.com/items/show/259734>

To ensuring equity in transportation most recently in the state of Georgia . . .

The I-75 corridor runs the length of the State of Georgia. It is, without question, a primary roadway through, to and within our State. Given its level of importance, maintenance, redesign and reconstruction must occur. When such design and construction activity is considered, the communities in and around the Interstate must be considered too. The Pleasant Hill community in Macon, Georgia is one such community. For nearly fifteen (15) years there had been discussion about the work that needed to happen at Interstates 16 and 75 in and around Macon. The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) understood that it needed to enlist the assistance of its internal departments as well as the external Macon community, to ensure that any work done was done in a manner that respected both the geographic and cultural environment of this historically black community that was once the childhood home of Little Richard.

In keeping with its mission of Creating a Culture of Collaboration and Innovation, the GDOT was both collaborative and innovative in making necessary improvements to the Interstate and the community it serves. GDOT recognized and made good on its duty to go beyond “doing no harm” to making a positive investment in the community.

To recognizing African-American contributions to transportation in the states of . . .

Alabama

Recognizing ***Mae C. Jemison of Decatur, AL*** as the first black woman selected to be an astronaut by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). On September 12, 1992, over five years after joining NASA, Jemison became the first African-American female to go into space. She served an eight-day voyage upon the Space Shuttle Endeavour.

Kentucky

Recognizing ***Garrett Morgan of Kentucky*** who some transportation leaders call “The Father of Transportation Technology” as the inventor of the traffic light. Morgan first tested his traffic light in Cleveland in 1922. Morgan’s hand-cranked semaphore traffic management device was in use throughout North America. It was eventually upgraded with the automatic red-green-yellow-and green-light traffic signals currently used around the world. In 1963, the United States Government awarded Morgan a commendation for his traffic signal.

Mississippi

Recognizing **Jessie L. Brown of Hattiesburg, MS** as the first African American naval aviator in the United States Navy in 1948. Ensign Jesse L. Brown was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his Korean War combat service.

South Carolina

Recognizing South Carolina native, astronaut **Dr. Ronald E. McNair**, a native of Lake City, SC who was one of the first African American astronauts at NASA. Dr. McNair “earned his Ph.D. from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1976 at the age of 26. In addition to academic achievements he received three honorary degrees, as well as numerous fellowships and commendations. ... he was an attentive husband, loving father, a 6th degree black belt in karate, and an accomplished jazz saxophonist. ... Selected as an astronaut candidate by NASA in 1978, he completed a one-year training and evaluation period in 1979, qualifying him for assignment as a mission specialist astronaut on future space shuttle crew flights.” In 1984, he successfully completed his first mission which brought his total hours in space to 191!

Dr. McNair was subsequently assigned to the space shuttle Challenger; in January of 1986 he died when it tragically exploded.

<https://www.kent.edu/mcnair/life-ronald-e-mcnair>

For more information about Dr. Ronald McNair:

<https://www.biography.com/astronaut/ronald-mcnair>